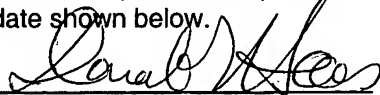


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Donald F. Haas  
Date: October 25, 2004

PATENT  
TH1843 03 (US)  
DFH:EM

*DACA*  
*IFW*  
*A*

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of )

KIRK H. RANEY, EDWIN E. TUCKER, JOHN F. SCAMEHORN, )  
SHERRIL D. CHRISTIAN (Deceased), STEPHEN F. CAPPS, )  
and LEONARD M. HABERMAN )

Serial No. 10/717,239 )

Group Art Unit: 1746

Filed November 19, 2003 )

SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR ECONOMICALLY VIABLE )  
AND ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY CENTRAL )  
PROCESSING OF HOME LAUNDRY )

October 25, 2004

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

PETITION UNDER RULE 1.78

The Applicant hereby requests consideration of this Petition Under Rule 1.78.

The undersigned recently became aware that the old practice of being able to insert a cross reference to a prior U.S. application by requesting such in the patent application transmittal form was changed by the new amendment practice effective July 30, 2003. It was at this time that the undersigned reviewed this patent application and found out that the amendment to include the required cross reference to the divisional application serial number 09/949,746 had only been requested at the time of filing in the transmittal form. The undersigned states that this error to include a preliminary amendment along with the filing was unintentional and that the entire delay in submitting this amendment was unintentional. The Applicant requests that the amendment of the specification in the amendment filed concurrently herewith be accepted.

10/29/2004 MAHMED1 00000090 191800 10717239

01 FC:1460 130.00 DA  
TH1843 03 PET.DOC

The Applicant requests that the fee for filing this petition and any fee/surcharge required for late filing of the amendment to include the cross reference to the prior application be charged to Shell Oil Company Deposit Account 19-1800.

Respectfully submitted,

KIRK H. RANEY, EDWIN E. TUCKER, JOHN F. SCAMEHORN,  
SHERRIL D. CHRISTIAN (Deceased), STEPHEN F. CAPPS,  
and LEONARD M. HABERMAN

By 

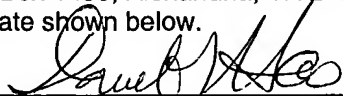
Their Attorney, Donald F. Haas  
Registration No. 26,177  
(713) 241-3356

P.O. Box 2463  
Houston, Texas 77252-2463



PATENT  
TH1843 03 (US)  
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Donald F. Haas  
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of )

KIRK H. RANEY, EDWIN E. TUCKER, JOHN F. SCAMEHORN, )  
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October 25, 2004

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

AMENDMENT

The Applicant hereby requests that the application be amended as follows:

In the Specification:

Please amend the specification by inserting before the first line:

This application is a division of Application Serial No. 09/949,746 filed September 10, 2001, the entire disclosure of which is hereby incorporated by reference, which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/262,613 filed January 18, 2001, the entire disclosure of which is hereby incorporated by reference.

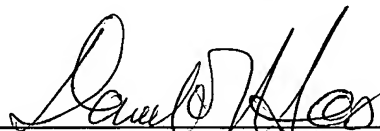
### REMARKS

The amendment of the specification to include a reference to the prior US application in the utility patent application transmittal form was mistakenly not made according to the new amendment practice. The Applicant requests that the application be amended as described on the previous page and that the attached petition under Rule 1.78 be accepted.

The Applicant hereby requests that the fee/surcharge for making the petition to include the cross reference to the prior application be charged to Shell Oil Company Deposit Account No. 19-1800.

Respectfully submitted,

KIRK H. RANEY, EDWIN E. TUCKER, JOHN F. SCAMEHORN,  
SHERRIL D. CHRISTIAN (Deceased), STEPHEN F. CAPPS,  
and LEONARD M. HABERMAN

By 

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